

137: A FUTURE UNCERTAIN



SKYBOUND

THE WALKING DEAD

KIRKMAN ADLARD GAUDIANO RATHBURN



CD 214

IMAGE COMICS PRESENTS

THE WALKING DEAD™

ROBERT KIRKMAN
Creator, Writer

CHARLIE ADLARD
Penciler, Cover

STEFANO GAUDIANO
Inker

CLIFF RATHBURN
Gray Tones

RUS WOOTON
Letterer

DAVE STEWART
Cover Colors

SEAN MACKIEWICZ
Editor

Previously:

While serving time in lock-up, Carl and Lydia bond over their experiences growing up in this new world. Meanwhile, Sophia wakes up from her coma, confirming Carl's self-defense story. Maggie releases him from his cell, but he returns to give Lydia a parting gift: his cowboy hat.

For Skybound
Entertainment



Robert Kirkman
chief executive officer

Sean Mackiewicz
editorial director

Shawn Kirkham
director of business development

Brian Huntington
online editorial director

June Alian
publicity director

Rachel Skidmore
director of media development

Helen Leigh
assistant editor

Dan Petersen
operations manager

Sarah Effinger
office manager

Nick Palmer
operations coordinator

Lizzy Iverson
administrative assistant

Stephan Murillo
administrative assistant

International Inquiries: foreign@skybound.com

For Image Comics



Robert Kirkman
chief operating officer

Erik Larsen
chief financial officer

Todd McFarlane
president

Marc Silvestri
chief executive officer

Jim Valentino
vice-president

Eric Stephenson
publisher

Ron Richards
director of business development

Jennifer de Guzman
director of trade book sales

Kat Salazar
director of pr & marketing

Corey Murphy
director of retail sales

Jeremy Sullivan
director of digital sales

Emilio Bautista
sales assistant

Branwyn Bigglestone
senior accounts manager

Emily Miller
accounts manager

Jessica Ambriz
administrative assistant

Tyler Shainline
events coordinator

David Brothers
content manager

Jonathan Chan
production manager

Drew Gill
art director

Meredith Wallace
print manager

Addison Duke
production artist

Vincent Kukua
production artist

Tricia Ramos
production assistant

www.imagecomics.com

THE WALKING DEAD #137. February 2015. Published by Image Comics, Inc. Office of publication: 2001 Center St., 6th Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704. Copyright © 2015 Robert Kirkman, LLC. All rights reserved. THE WALKING DEAD™ (including all prominent characters featured herein), its logo and all character likenesses are trademarks of Robert Kirkman, LLC, unless otherwise noted. Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks and copyrights of Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means (except for short excerpts for review purposes) without the express written permission of Image Comics, Inc. All names, characters, events and locales in this publication are entirely fictional. Any resemblance to actual persons (living and/or dead), events or places, without satiric intent, is coincidental. DIGITAL EDITION.





WHAT? I'M
JUST TALKING
TO LYDIA.

WELL, CARL... THAT'S WHAT
WE'VE COME TO DO. WE
NEED TO GET MORE
INFORMATION OUT OF HER.
YOU COULD REALLY
MESS THAT UP.



YEAH... IF SHE TALKS TO
YOU... SHE MIGHT NOT
WANT TO KEEP TALKING
TO US.

WELL, IF YOU DIDN'T LOCK HER UP
AND INSTEAD SHOWED HER HOW
NICE WE CAN BE, MAYBE SHE'D
WANT TO TALK TO
ALL OF US.



WE ARE BEING NICE
TO HER. WE'RE JUST
TALKING.

WHILE YOU'VE
GOT HER LOCKED
AWAY LIKE A
PRISONER. YOU'RE
SCARING HER,
MAGGIE.



SHE KILLED
TWO OF OUR
PEOPLE,
CARL.

AND HOW
MANY
OF HER
PEOPLE DID
YOU KILL?

SHE'S NO DANGER TO US NOW...
AND I THINK THAT WAS JUST A
MISUNDERSTANDING. YOU
REMEMBER HOW HARD IT IS
OUT IN THE OPEN... HOW
DANGEROUS NEW
PEOPLE ARE.



SHOULDN'T YOU
BE WORKING WITH
EARL?

YOU CAN'T
BE HERE, CARL.
LET US DO OUR
WORK.





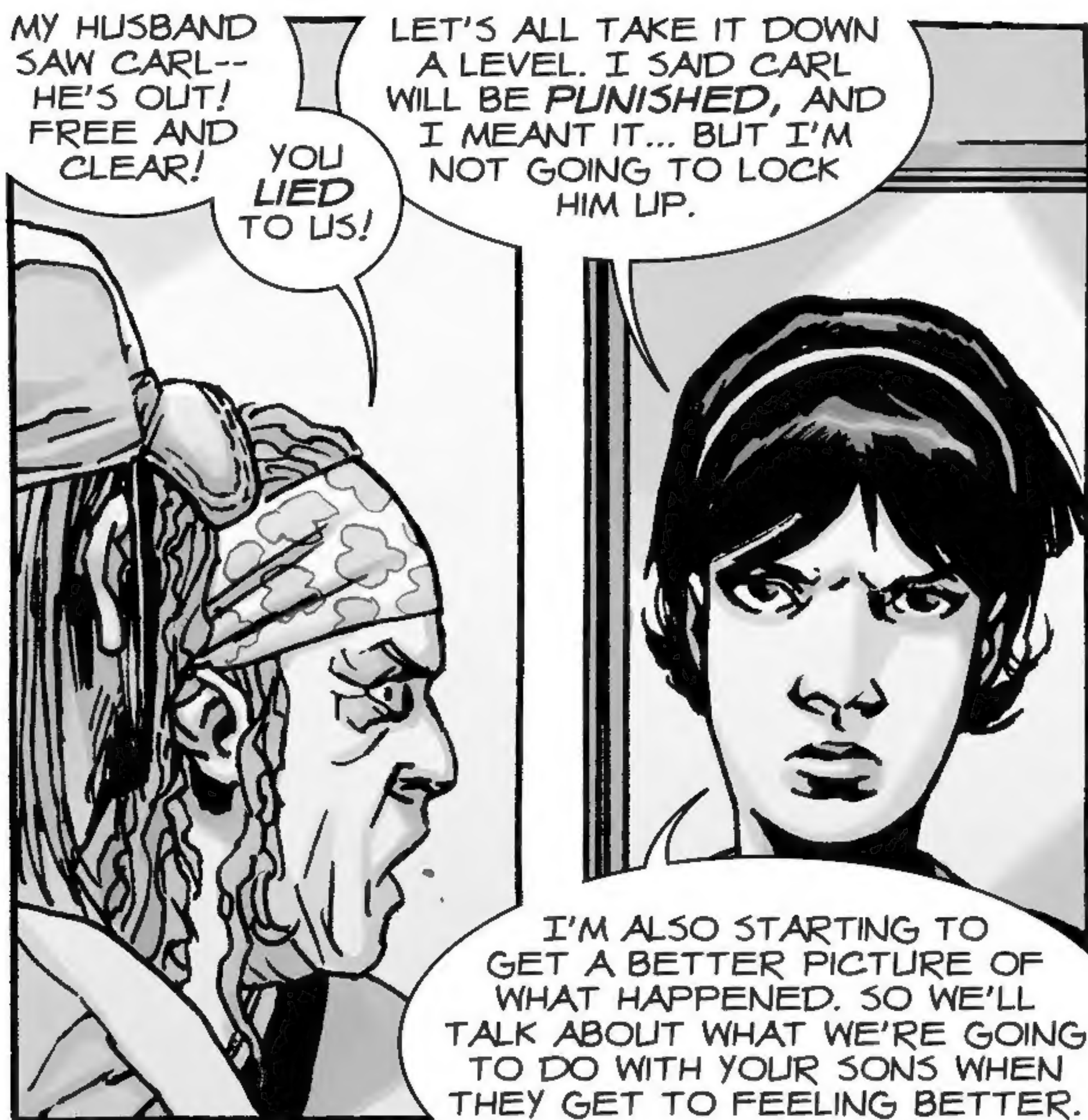


WHERE IS SHE?!

WHERE IS THAT FUCKING BITCH?!



SHE'S RIGHT HERE.



MY HUSBAND SAW CARL-- HE'S OUT! FREE AND CLEAR!

YOU LIED TO US!

LET'S ALL TAKE IT DOWN A LEVEL. I SAID CARL WILL BE **PUNISHED**, AND I MEANT IT... BUT I'M NOT GOING TO LOCK HIM UP.

I'M ALSO STARTING TO GET A BETTER PICTURE OF WHAT HAPPENED. SO WE'LL TALK ABOUT WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO WITH YOUR SONS WHEN THEY GET TO FEELING BETTER.



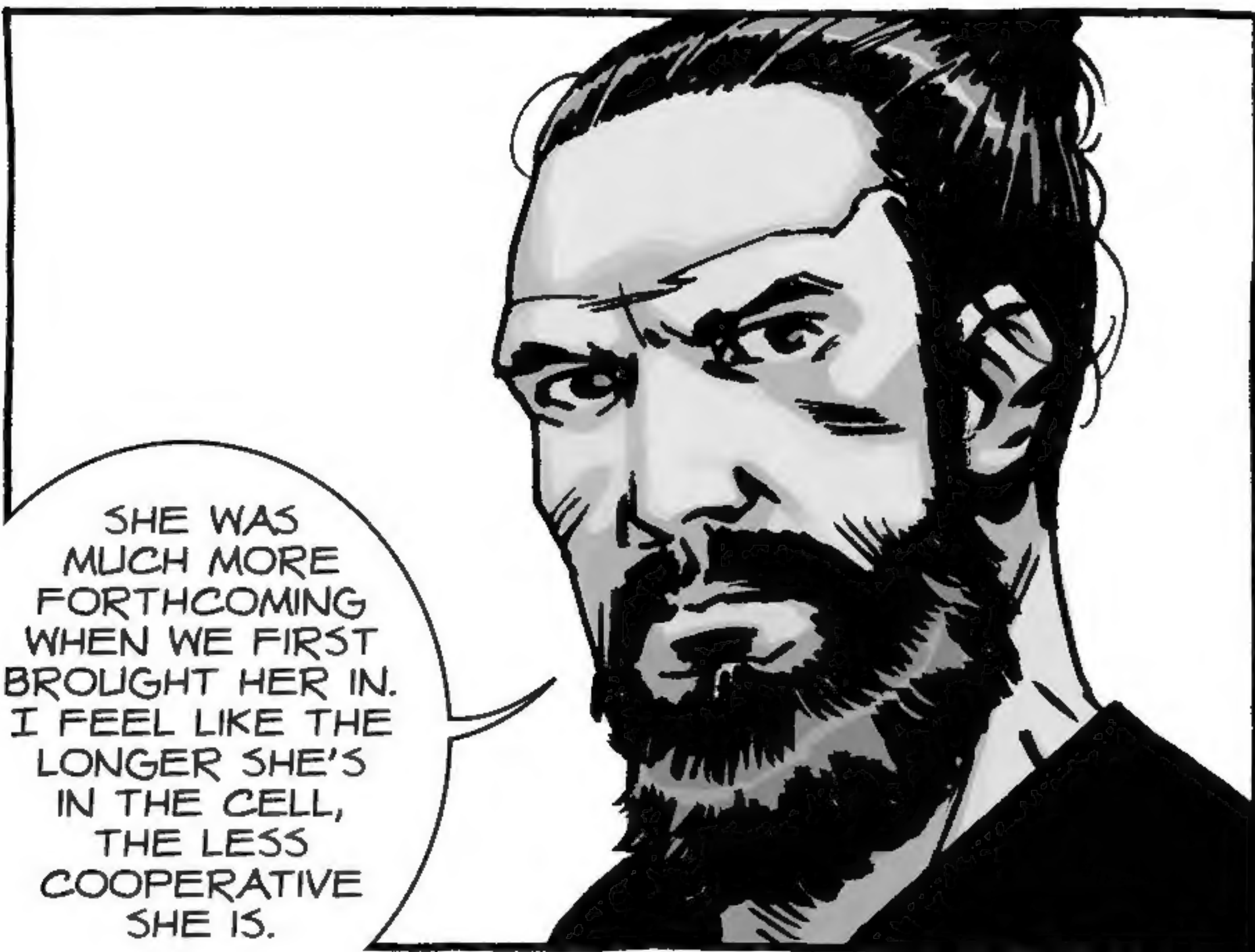
WHAT THE **HELL** DOES THAT MEAN?

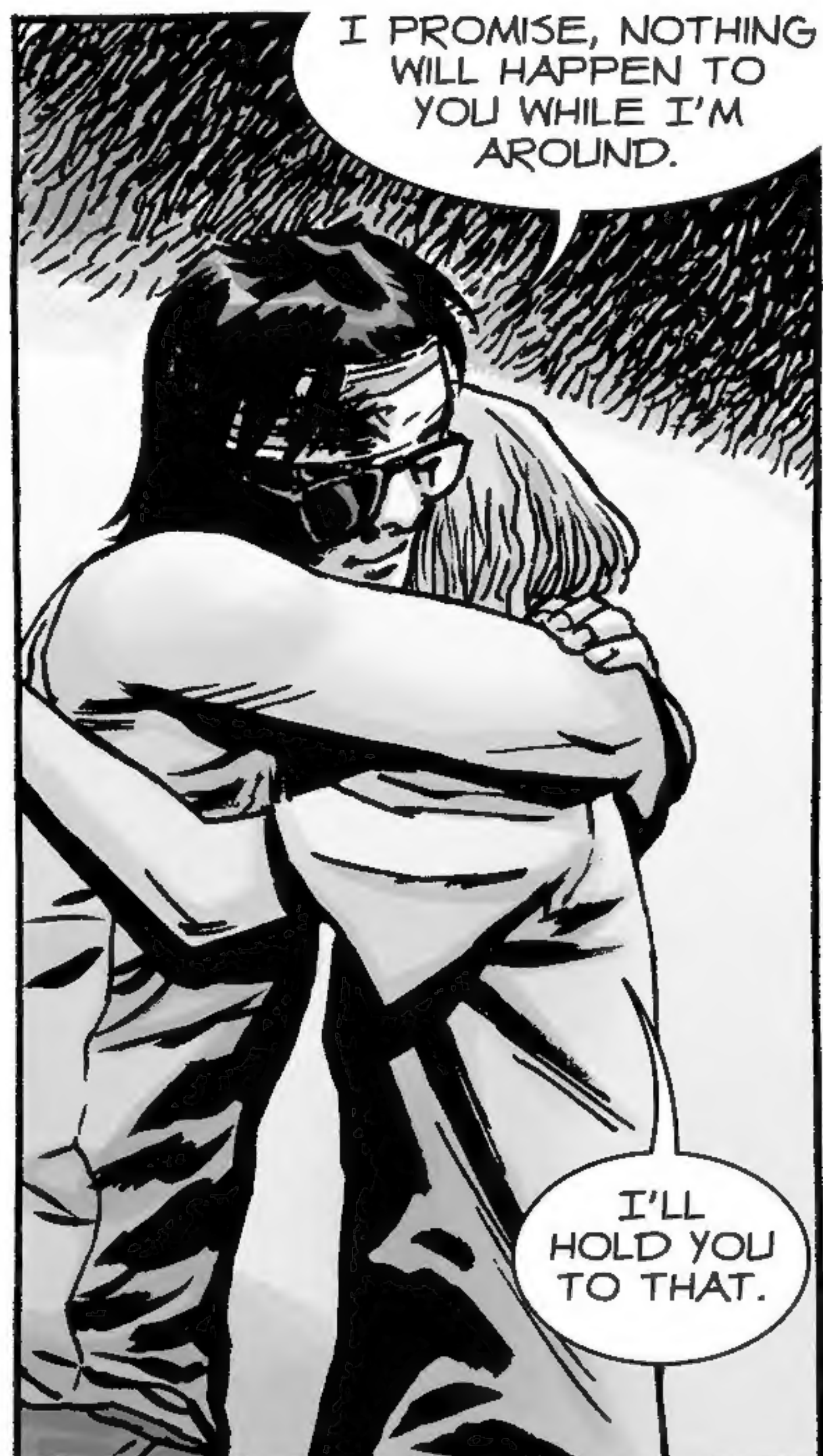
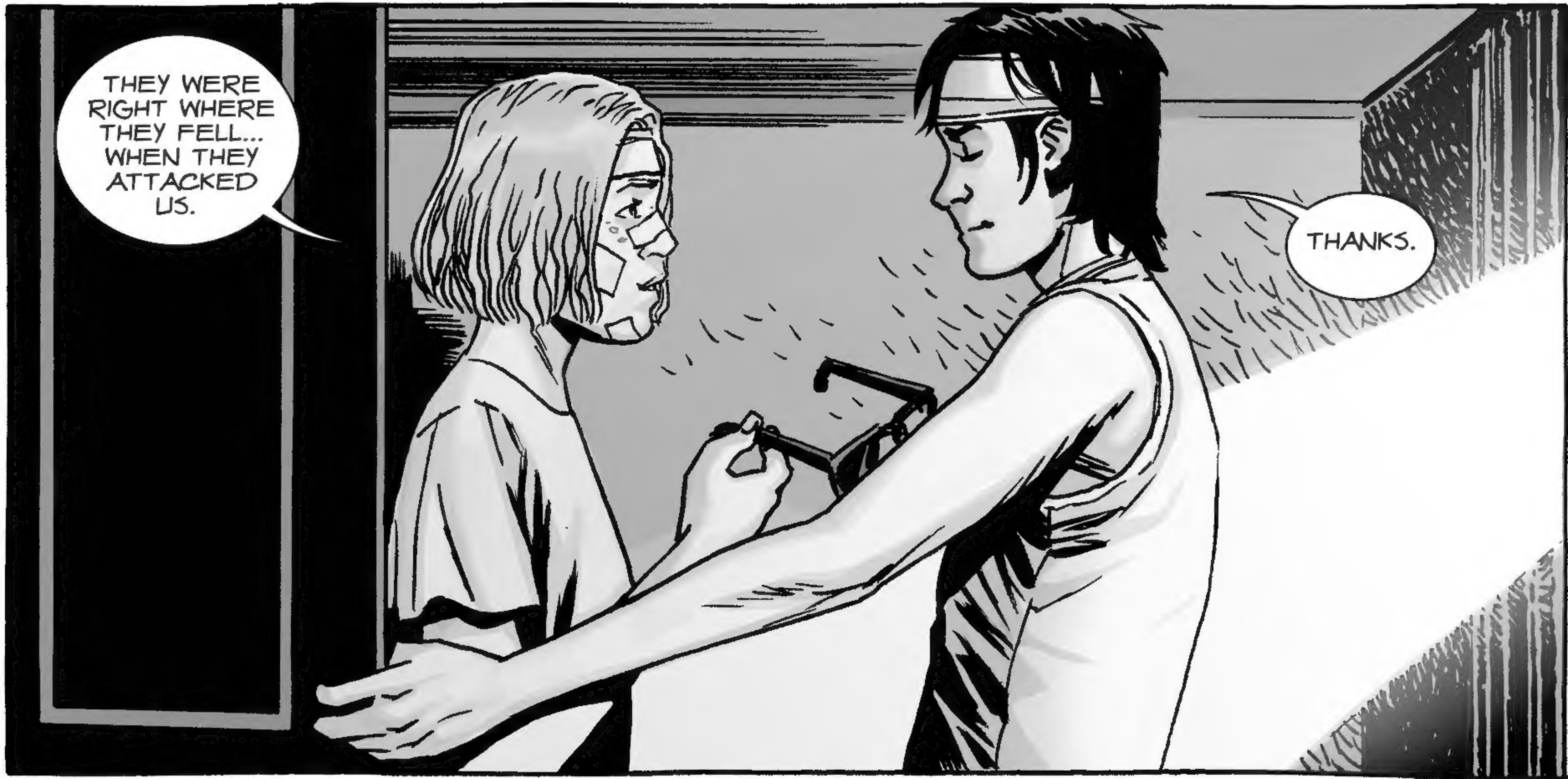
ARE YOU FUCKING JOKING? IS THAT A JOKE?! YOU CAN'T FUCKING BE SERIOUS!

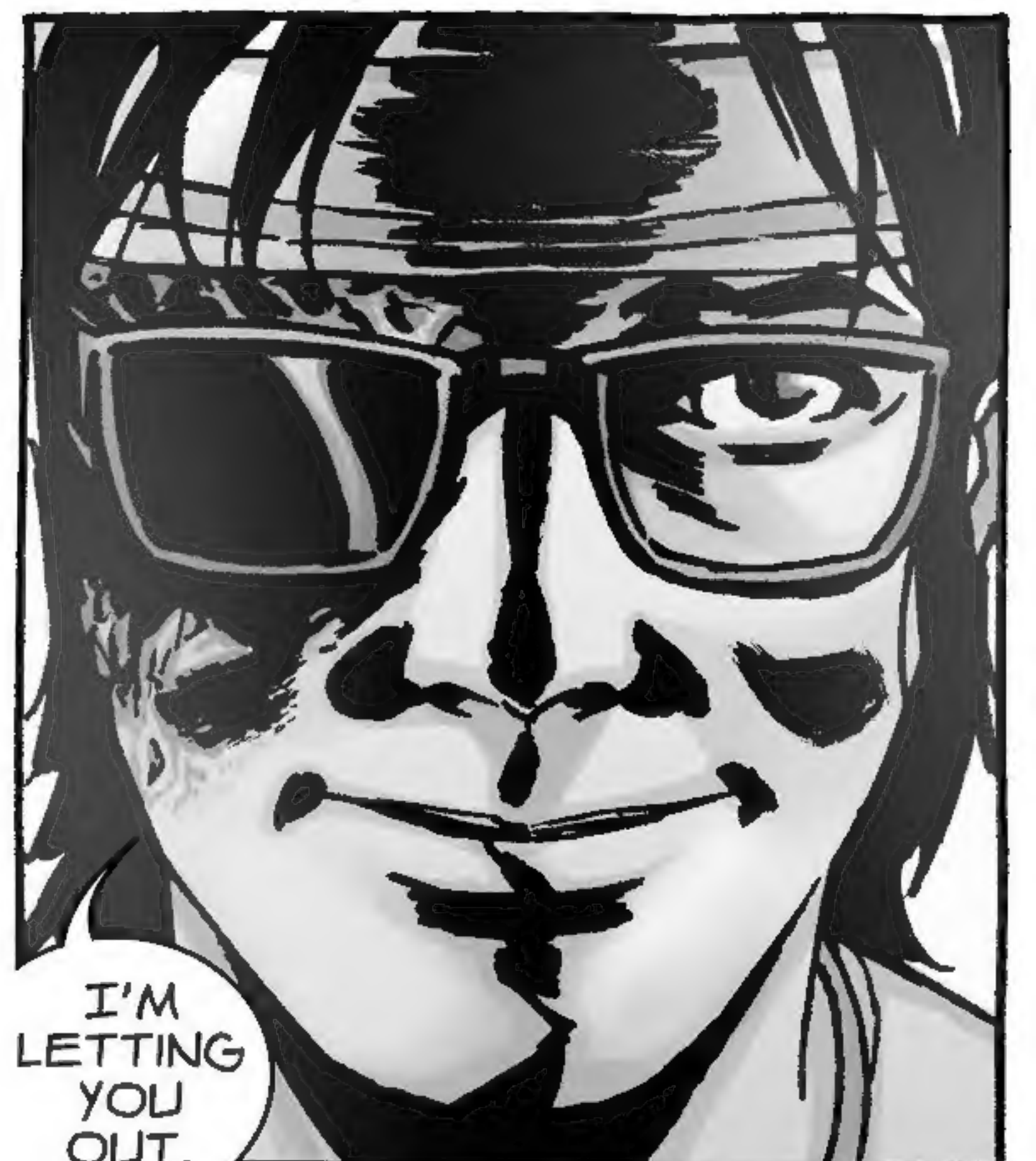


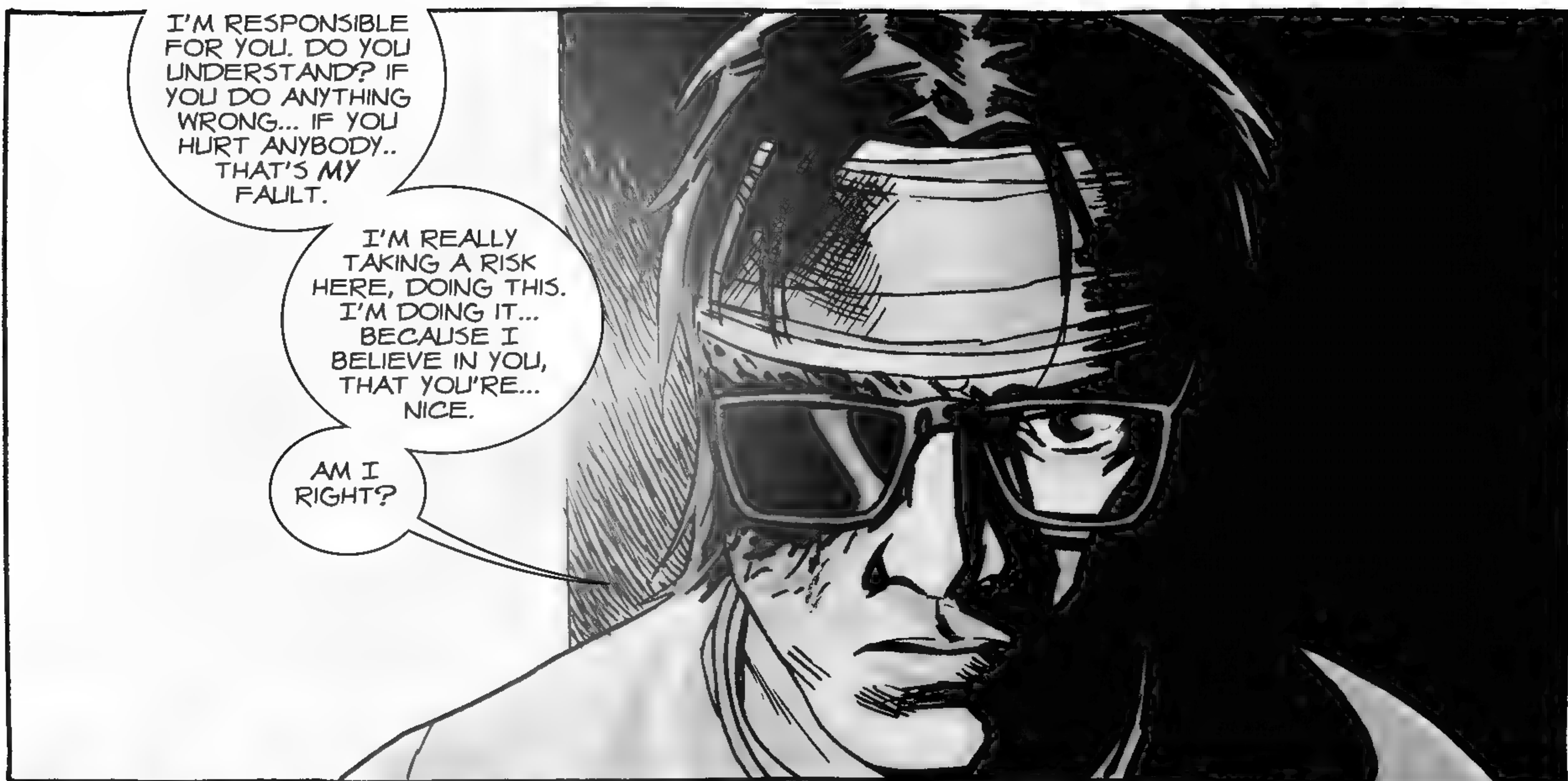
I HONESTLY THINK IT'S TIME TO START DISCUSSING RELOCATION.













OKAY... BUT
LYDIA... AND I
NEED YOU TO
LISTEN TO ME. IF YOU
TRY ANYTHING... IF YOU
TRY TO ESCAPE, IF YOU
TRY TO HURT SOMEONE,
IF YOU TRY TO DO
ANYTHING YOU KNOW
YOU **SHOULDN'T**
DO...

I'LL KILL
YOU.



CARL?



YOU'RE
SCARING
ME.



I WANT TO TRUST YOU.
I'M NOT GOING TO HURT
YOU. DON'T BE
SCARED.

I JUST WANT YOU TO
KNOW I'M NOT GOING
TO LET YOU HURT
ANY OF MY
PEOPLE.



I'M NOT
GOING TO
TRY AND
HURT
ANYONE.

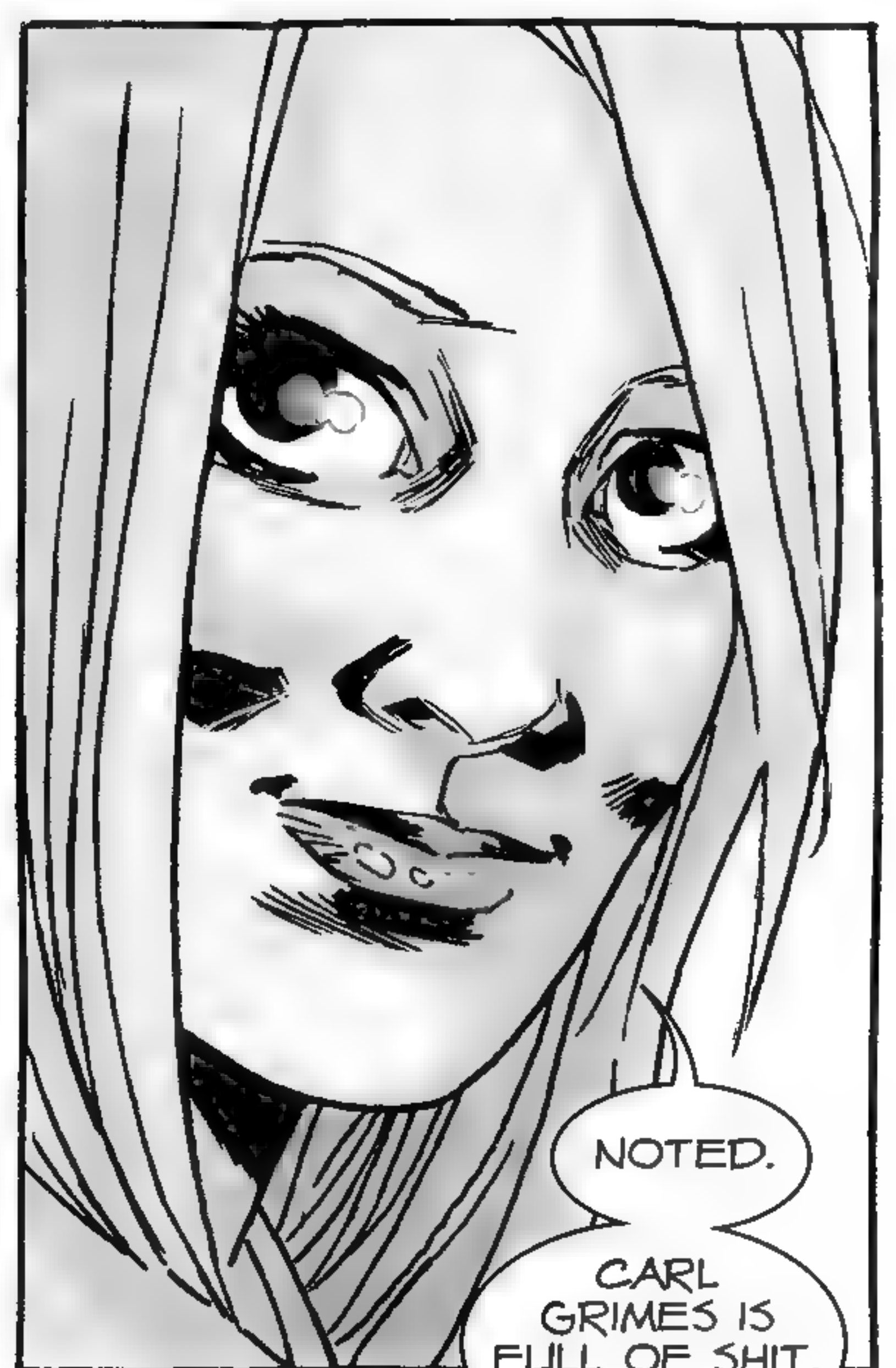
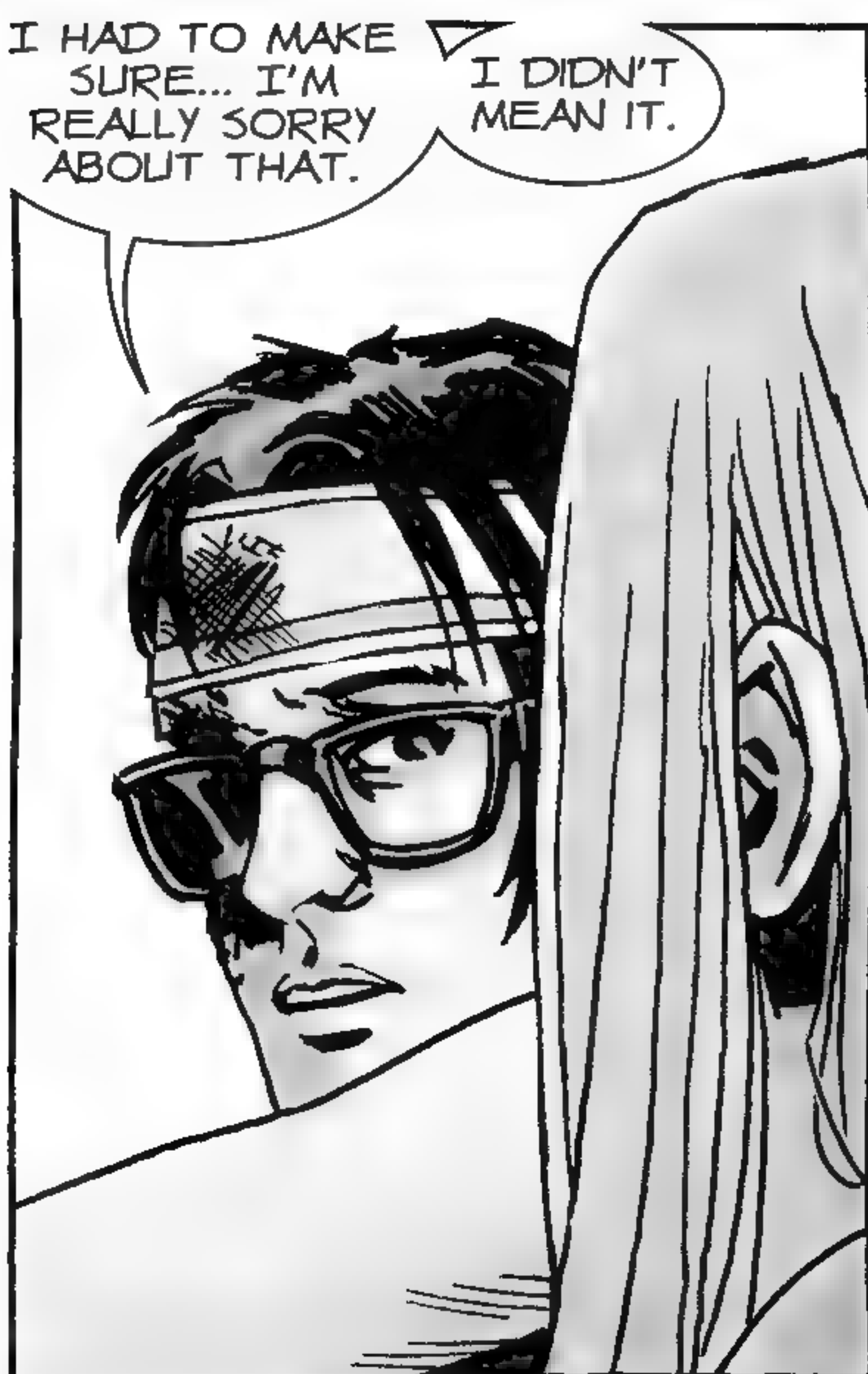
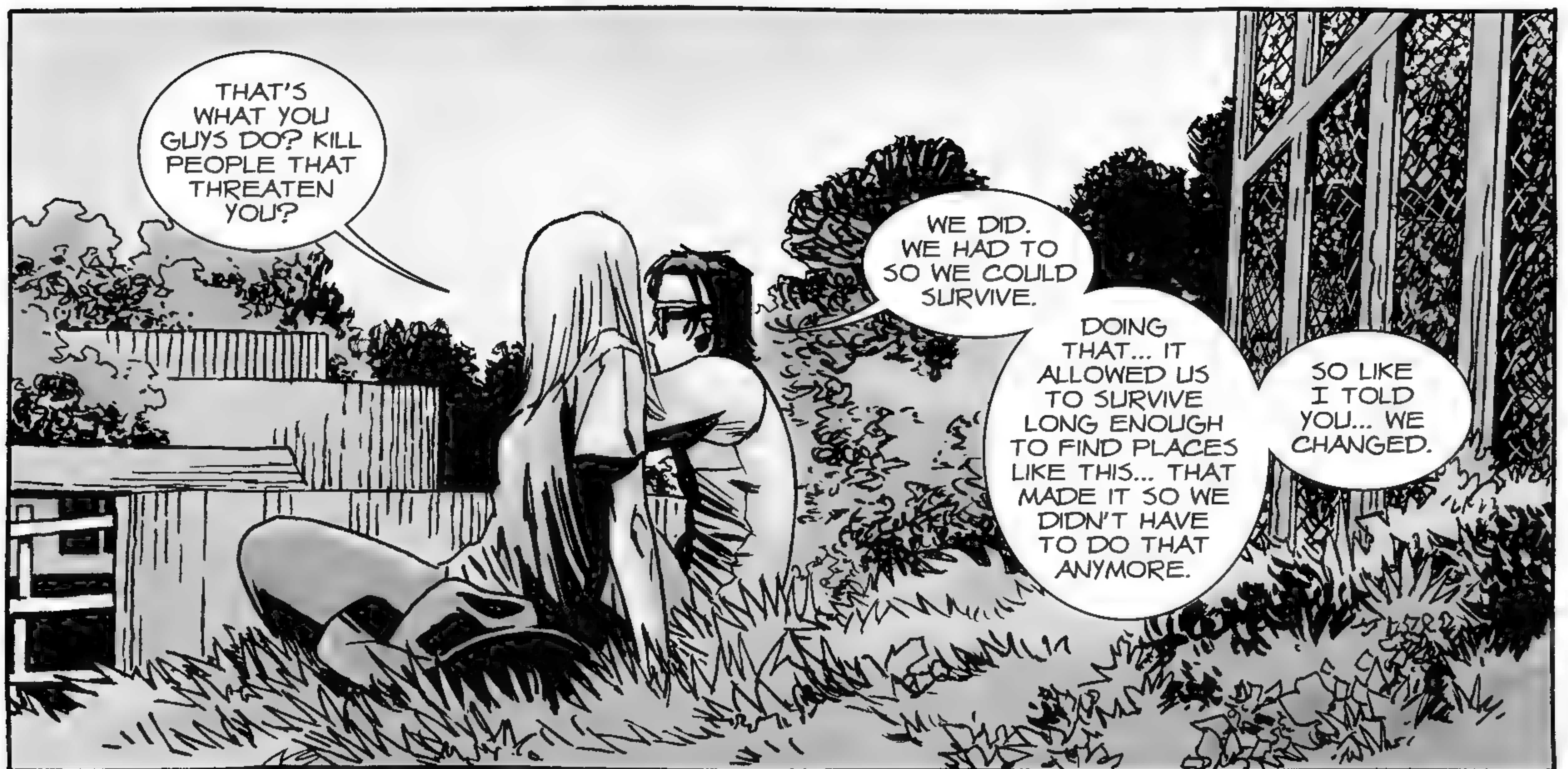
I
PROMISE.













I CAN TALK TO THEM ABOUT CARL. THEY'RE UPSET NOW, BUT THEY'LL SEE THINGS CLEARLY AFTER THEIR EMOTIONS CALM DOWN.

OF COURSE... BY THEN THINGS WILL HAVE TAKEN CARE OF THEMSELVES.

I'M SORRY, I CAN'T EVEN FOCUS... I'M JUST NOT FEELING WELL ALL OF A SUDDEN.

THE ROOM IS SPINNING.

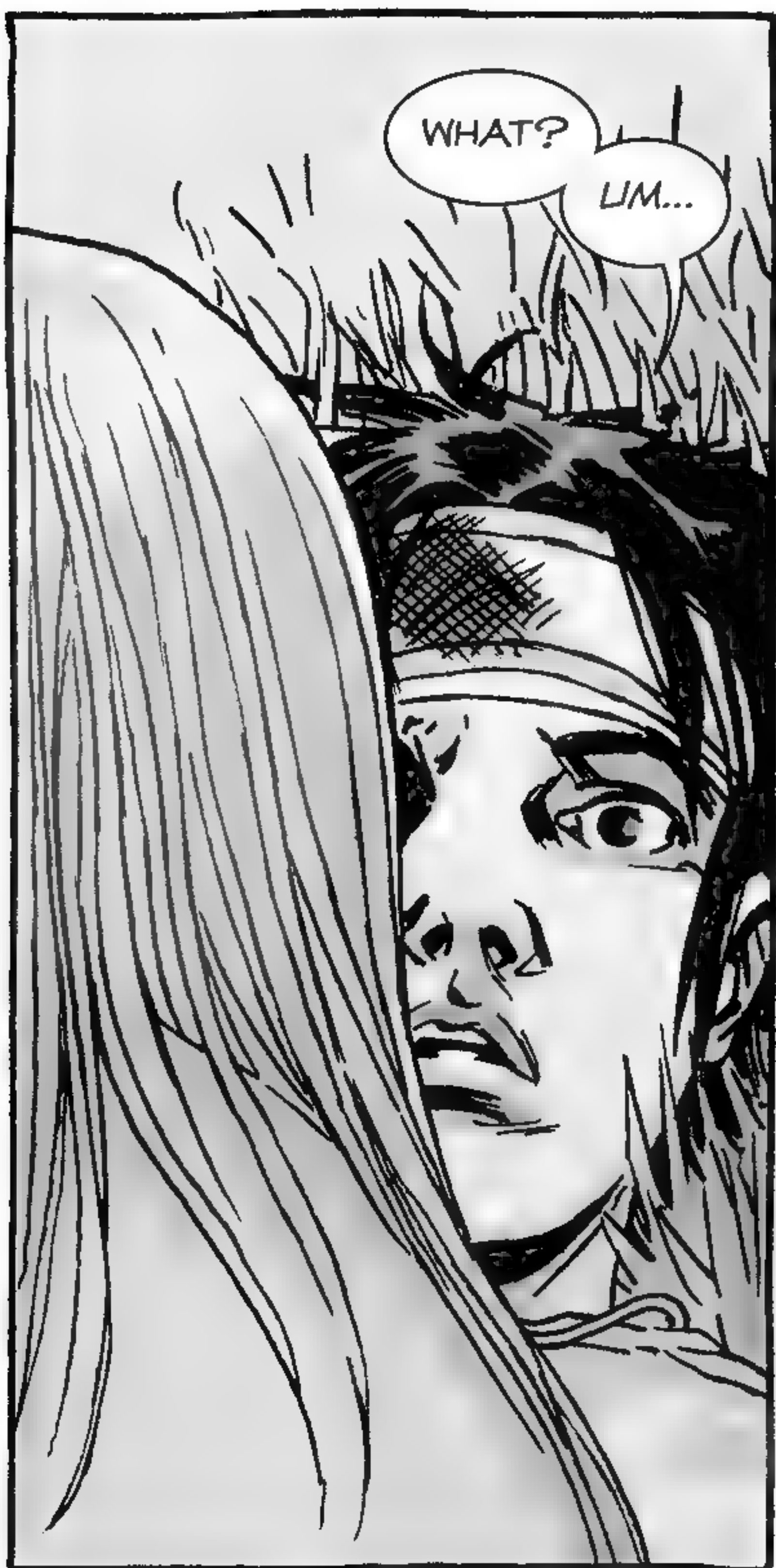
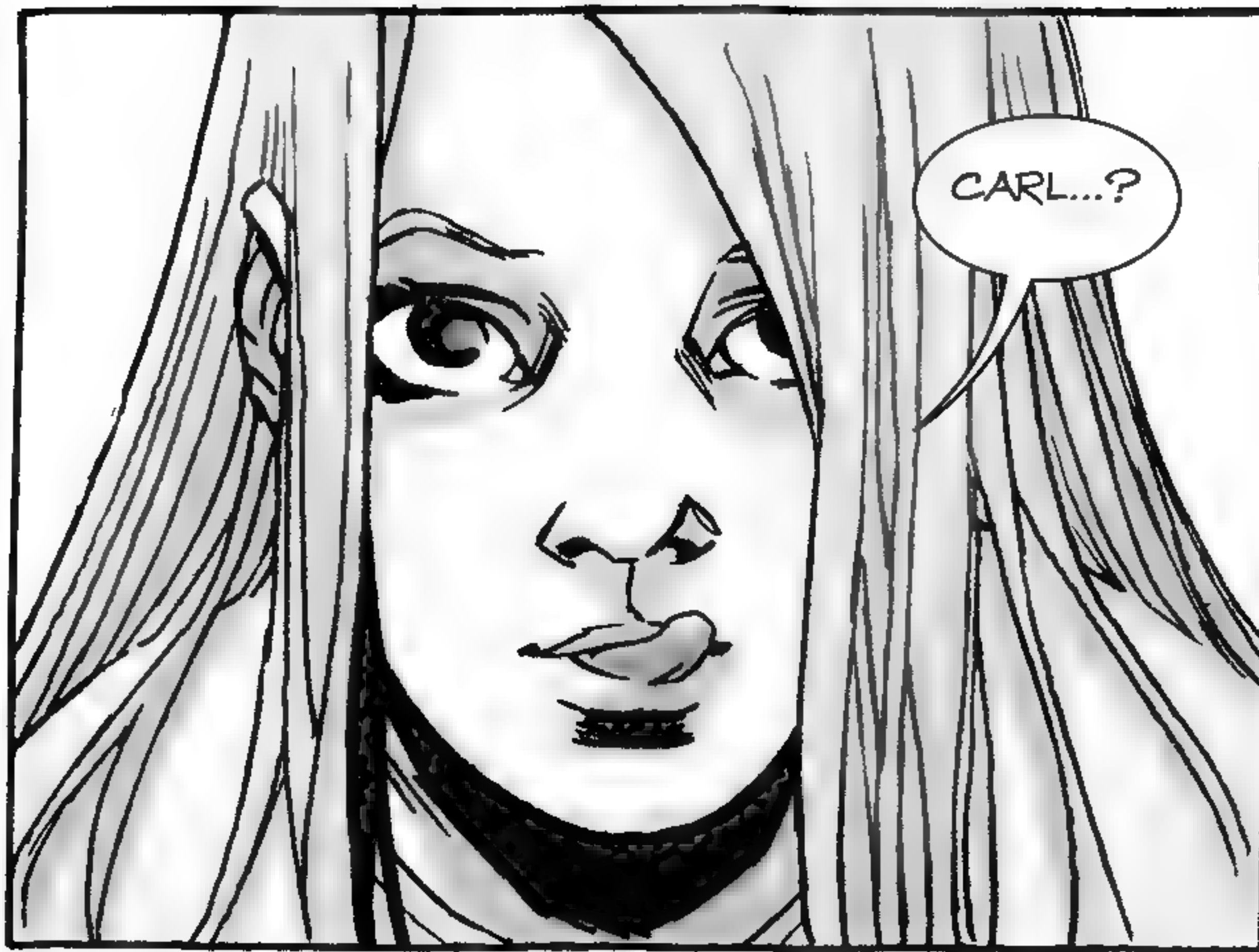
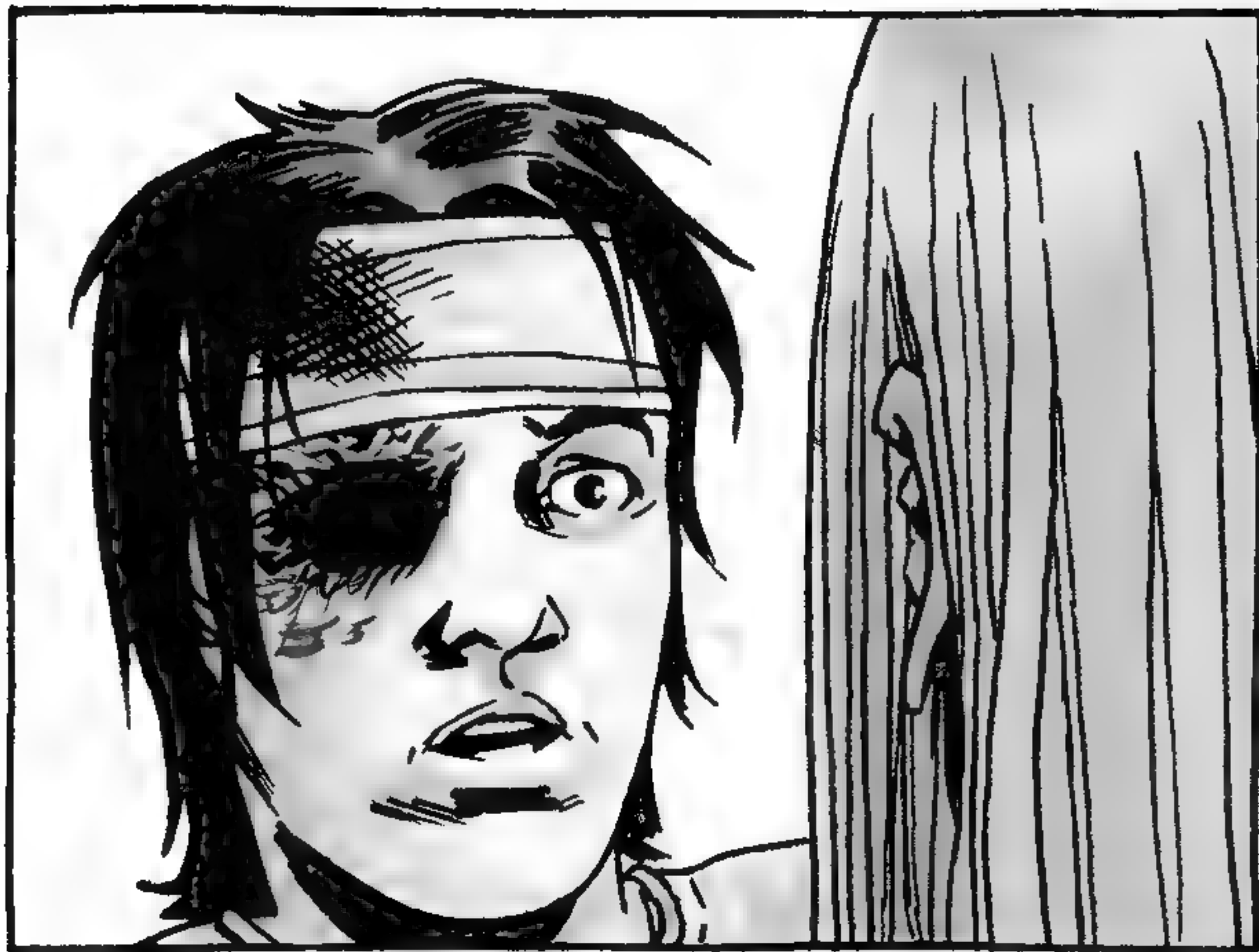








I THINK
IT'S SEXY.





LETTER HACKS

WRITE TO US AT:

WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM

When Robert told me about the whole “licking the eye socket” thing, he didn’t tell me what happened right after that. We don’t discuss tender moments as much. But I’d love to discuss them with you all.... complete strangers.

Heh. Our little Carl is growing up...

I was really shocked to see the whisperer that Jesus captured was a (pretty) teenage girl. Surely that is going to save her? She says childhood doesn’t exist so I’m guessing she isn’t very innocent. So my question/prediction is that she is going to seduce Carl?

Bill

Is it seduction? Or just teenage love? More to come!

Good call, Bill!

Dear Walking Dead,

I cannot praise you enough for your brilliant book. But I would like to take a moment to make observations on the post-war story arc. I know you are working hard to start epic new storylines about Carl’s future, Spencer 2’s devious plans, Michonne’s absence and something about talking zombies. And I’m sure there are some readers who are interested in these developments. But I think I speak for the vast majority of your readers when I say that we can’t really focus on these distractions when the issue of Rosita’s baby looms over us.

We don’t get nearly enough Rosita-related mail, so we’re going to OVERDO it with this one.

I know you won’t give us all of the details but can you drop a few clues?

1) Did Rosita tell Eugene who the father was?

Nope.

2) Is the father an established character or someone we haven’t met?

I’m not telling.

3) Which community does the father live in?

I’m not telling.

4) Did Rosita confess to Eugene because she’s expecting the baby to not be white/Hispanic? OMG, is it Ezekiel’s? Is that why Michonne is gone?

Maybe she told him because it’s the right thing to do?

5) I think it’s clear that Andrea knew about the situation. Did Rick know the truth when he was cheerily counseling Eugene to talk to Rosita? Does this cause painful Shane flashbacks for Rick?

Rick doesn’t know.

Is that why he beat that patrolman?

He beat that patrolman because he was derelict at his duties. You can’t do that these days. America...

Walking Dead women tend to stay pregnant for years so any info you can give me to tide me over is appreciated.

In tortured resentment of your success,
Justin in Dallas

Rosita will be pregnant for DECADES.

I am writing to say PLEASE PLEASE start editing the letters for typos and spelling again, it’s unbearable to see!

Mark Jackson
Pasadena, TX

NO. You folks get the letters page you deserve. You need to start policing yourselves. Did spell check actually make folks worse at spelling? Do they still teach spelling in school? Should we make Walking Dead-themed flashcards? Do you know what flashcards are, or is there an app for that now? I’m not old enough to sound this cranky!!!

Stop covering for your laziness. You just don’t want to proofread the letters as you read.

Kirkman, I felt pissed off reading issue 135 over the dramatic nonsense unfolding over Carl’s defense of Sophia, and then a moment of clarity....I wasn’t pissed off at the dramatic content, I was pissed at the character’s on the page! Thank you, as always, for making the story real, as I sat there agitated, about to go into cardiac arrest on a commuter train, angry at the parents of Sophia’s attackers. The new society is not as stable as it appeared since the war ended, and I am interested to see how this will play out. In the post-apocalyptic society we are witnessing, are there enough “decent” people left to live in a productive society, or will this end up showing us that dictatorships like Negan are the only way to keep people in line? As always, great work to the entire team on the Comic and the Show. Happy Holidays

Mike Mustache

You can’t cure people from being shitheads. Especially in an apocalypse.

Very true.

DEAR TWD TEAM,

I really loved this passed issue (135) it’s probably one of my favorites especially Carl telling them they’re “FUCKING FUCKWADS.” and Maggie giving him the run down on their new society. Also will Carl’s character be

more restraint on his actions after the fight or he’s still going to be the same?

Are you familiar with how hormones work? Teenage boys are shitheads. Especially when they think they’re right.

my second question is, are we going to see the walking dead focus on Carl in this storyline?

keep up the amazing job!!!

Jaime

Robert & Sean--

Regarding the question in Letter Hacks about the availability of coffee for Andrea to serve Magna & friends back in #133 --Andrea had to be serving chicory! Chicory has been served as a coffee substitute during times of shortage since the Union naval blockade of the Confederacy cut off the South’s coffee during the Civil War. The stuff grows nearly anywhere in North America. I’m certain Andrea’s “coffee” came from the roots of chicory found out in the gardens of Alexandria.

Your book is one of the main reasons I’m still buying and reading comics after 55 of my 62 years! Finicky old bastard that I am, I really dislike superhero books and it’s fortunate for me that there are non-superhero alternatives like Walking Dead, The Fade Out, Southern Bastards, Men of Wrath ...you get the idea.

Now, back to my comics and real coffee,
--Old Fart from Oklahoma

This is EXACTLY the type of letter we get for MANIFEST DESTINY, so can I recommend, Old Fart, you check that Skybound title out? First two trades are available, with fantastic art and a writer that knows what the hell chicory is.

I would just like to formally say that YOU’D BETTER NOT BE DRAWING ANY PARALLELS BETWEEN CARL AND NEGAN OR I’LL KILL YOU.

That is all,
Will Kirk

That’s... pretty rude. What else would I expect from a guy with two first names?

Too late!

Will you ever have Jeffery mentioned or Featured in the show, video games, or his own novel? He kinda got left to the reader’s imagination. I always had a feeling that Jeffery Grimes is a ladiesman , that’s why Rick doesn’t like mentioning him, Or maybe Jeff is so much of a bad-ass that Rick feels jealous? Possibly,He’s leading a group that still kill.

You’re walking greatness,
Marquest Anderson
San Jose,CA

YOU CAN’T KEEP JEFF GRIMES DOWN! (Ok, that’s the only letter he’ll be mentioned in this year. Probably.)

Hey guys. I’m currently in the hospital from a burst appendix. It’s pretty boring but it reminds me of issue 1 and Days Gone Bye. Anyways, I was looking at the walking dead wiki issue release schedules and it seems issue 144, the last one in compendium 3, releases in April 2015. Does that mean we’ll get another beautiful compendium this time next year or even earlier?

And yes, I’m okay. Also, Negan is great.

Teaghan, BC, Canada

Thanks for the reminder! Due to an accelerated publishing schedule (17 issues last year!), Compendium 3 will be out in October. Yes, this

year. Yes, right in time for Season 6 and all the TV shenanigans. Who says we don’t love you?

Seriously. WHO?!

Dear Mr Kirkman and Mr Mackiewicz

I would like start by thanking you and everyone at Skybound for all you do. I am twenty years old and I had never read a comic book before, until one day while shopping for a keychain at my local retro game store. While browsing I seen two comics sitting on a rack, issues number 116 and 117, being a fan of the show I thought why not and bought them both. After a week of owning them i finally decided to read them, and fell in love with the art and the story. Soon after that I started buying more and more Walking Dead comics, and then branched out and started reading many different titles from many publishers. (I now own between 400-600 comics) and id like to thank you all for opening me to something i had missed out on.

Now onto the matter at hand after i finished reading 135, i have to ask you can you cut Carl a break? I have a feeling this girl is going to trick him into loving her and then use the poor one eyed kid to gain her own freedom and then smash his heart to bits, (much like Glenn’s Head) Carl is one my favourite characters let him have just this one thing. Also Carl went a little Negan there didnt he? I mean those fuckwads can go fuck themselves, but i’m glad Carl and Negan’s time spent together meant something.

You write letters like you’ve been reading this book forever. It’s pretty amazing.

Finally the most important matter. After collecting all these comics, i branched out and started collecting all types of merchandise, the action figures, mini figures, shirts, swim shorts, Blu-Rays, posters, board games and my favourite piece of merchandise. It combined two of my most enjoyable hobbies, walking dead and drinking large amounts of coffee. The If Daryl Dies We Riot mug with the totally bitching crossbow handle.

One day after pouring myself a piping hot cup of coffee i went out on my porch to enjoy the beautiful day. I sat down and lifted my extremely hot cup of coffee only for the crossbow to break off, (Most likely because it was 7000 degrees and 8 liters of coffee) The cup plummeted down and landed upside down on my lap. Boiling liquid seeped through my shorts and i felt the burn of a thousand suns scorch my sack. I screamed out for help but it was too late, my junk was fried, my eggs were cooked, anyways Thanks for all the time and money ive spent enjoying what you do.

Sincerley,

The man with burnt testicles,
Connor Petrie

I don’t even care if that really happened... It was too good not to share.

(I would also like to reiterate that Skybound doesn’t produce merch that features Daryl Dixon and is in no way to blame for your tender testicle.)

Yeah... that’s not on us.

Next month, there’s TWO issues of THE WALKING DEAD for your eye holes! #138 at the beginning of the month, and #139 two weeks after. Questions are answered in both of them. Wouldn’t want to spoil them, of course.

-Sean Mackiewicz

It’s going to be great!

-Robert Kirkman

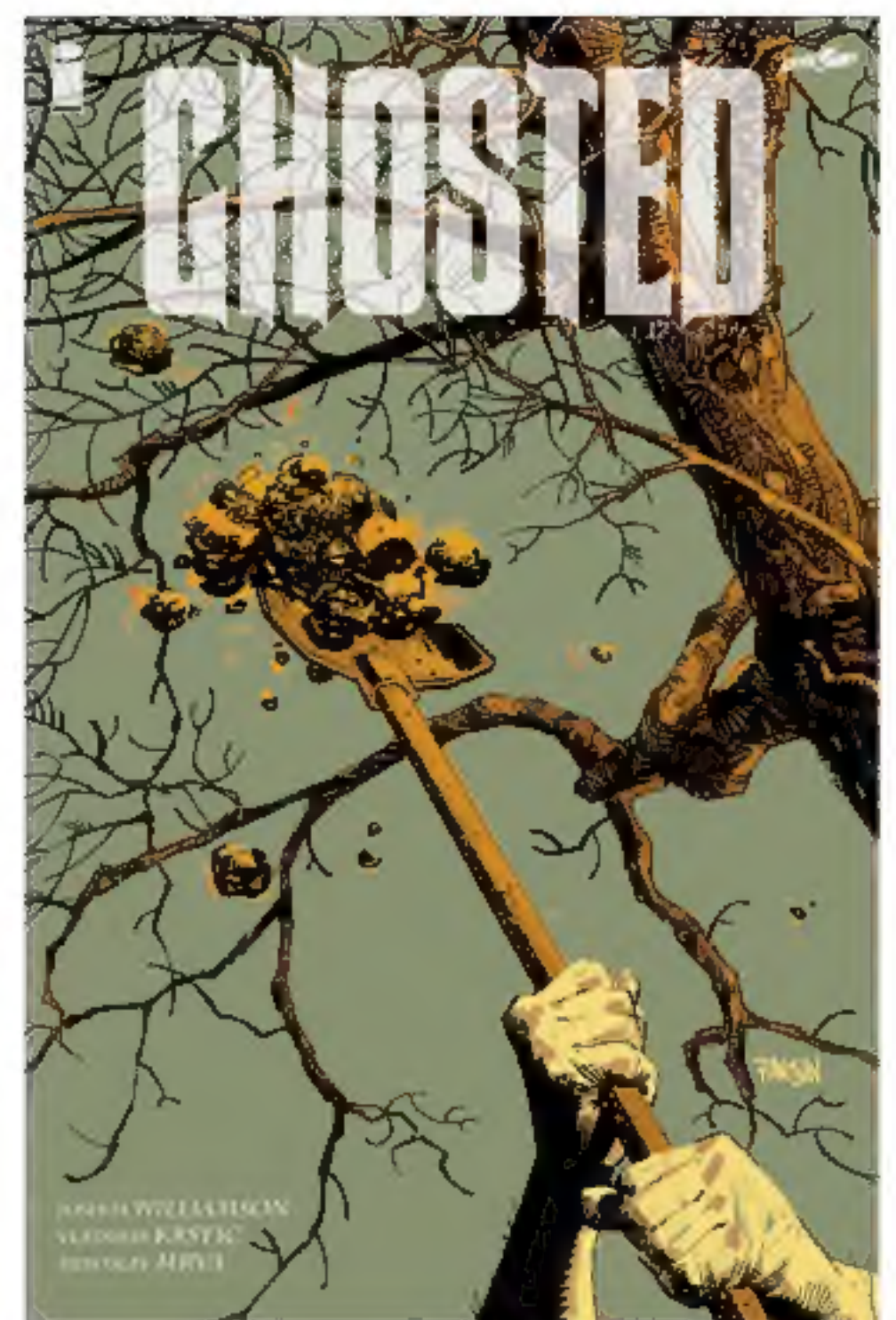
DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE!



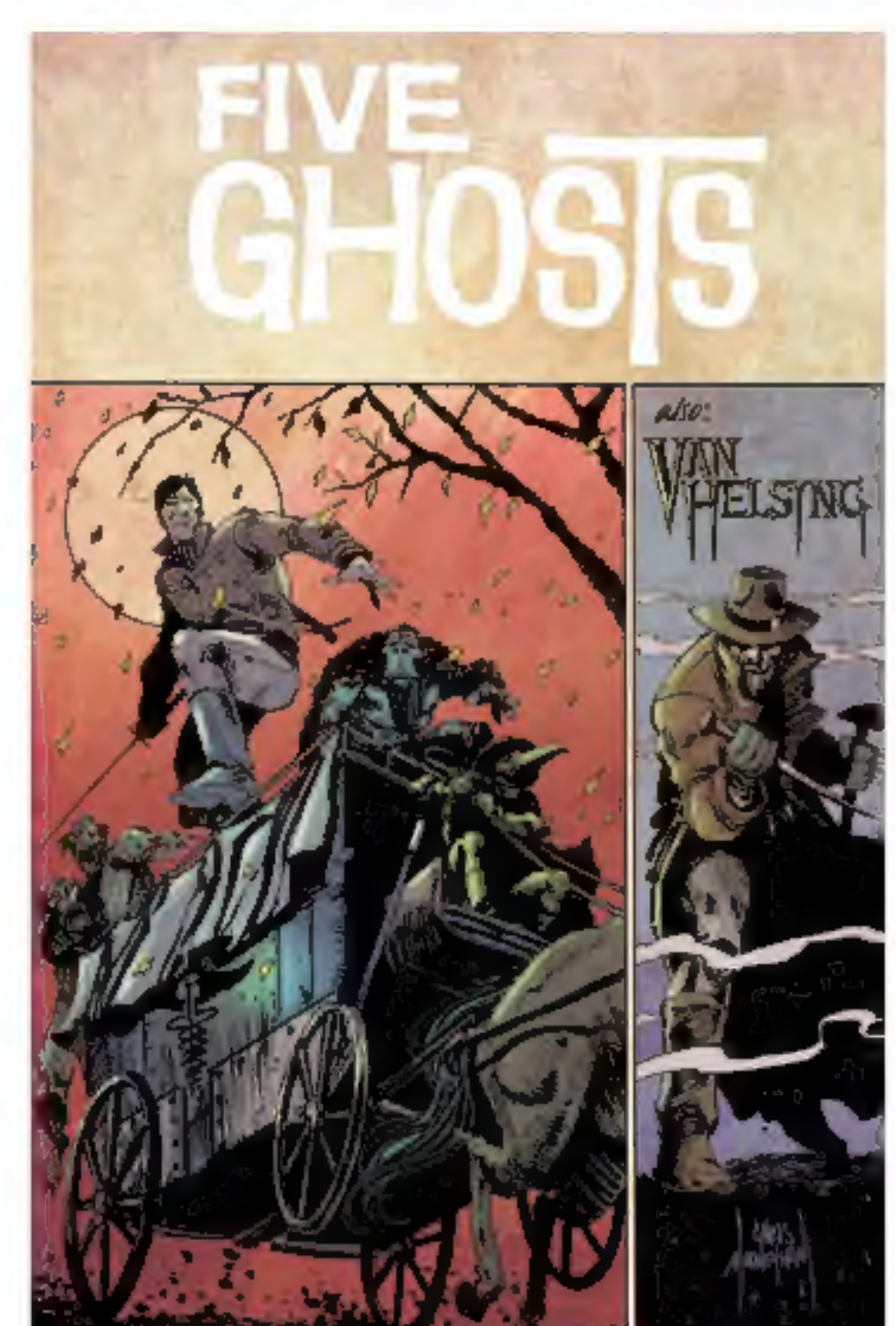
THE WALKING DEAD #138
ON SALE FEBRUARY 2015



TECH JACKET #8
ON SALE NOW



GHOSTED #17
ON SALE NOW



FIVE GHOSTS #15
ON SALE NOW



KYLE BARNES HAS BEEN PLAGUED BY
DEMONIC POSSESSION ALL HIS LIFE.

NOW HE NEEDS ANSWERS.



OUTCASTTM

BY KIRKMAN
& AZACETA

VOLUME ONE

AVAILABLE NOW

SKYBOUND
SKYBOUND.COM

Image
IMAGECOMICS.COM

OUTCAST BY KIRKMAN & AZACETA TM & © 2014 Robert Kirkman, LLC. All rights reserved. Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc. SKYBOUND and its logos are © Skybound, LLC.



BEHIND EVERY MASK THERE'S A SECRET

SECRET IDENTITIES™

JOINES FAERBER KYRIAZIS KIRCHOFF DUKESHIRE

